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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC
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**PHOTOGRAPHIC
INTERPRETATION
REPORT**

ZELENODOLSK SHIPYARD 340, USSR



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JUNE 1971

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME Zelenodolsk Shipyard 340		COUNTRY UR
UTM COORDINATES NA	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES 55-50-16N 048-30-07E	25X1
MAP REFERENCE 8th RTS. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet M0165-1HL, 4th ed, Apr 68, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)		25X1
LATEST IMAGERY USED	NEGATION DATE (if required) NA	25X1
REQUIREMENT None	NPIC PROJECT 251031AB	

ABSTRACT

1. This report provides a detailed imagery-derived analysis of the new shipbuilding facilities at Zelenodolsk Shipyard 340. Covered buildingways and a bilevel launch basin were under construction as of August 1970 and should be completed in two to three years. These new facilities will employ modern shipbuilding techniques and will substantially increase the shipbuilding capabilities at Zelenodolsk.

2. A photograph of the shipyard facilities and an artist's concept of the finished shipyard are included in the report.

INTRODUCTION

3. Zelenodolsk Shipyard 340 is just south of the city of Zelenodolsk on the north bank of the Volga River. This shipyard has been building Grisha-class large submarine chasers (PCE), Petrozavodsk-class and Zelenodolsk-class refrigerated transports, and Kometa-class hydrofoils.

4. The new shipbuilding facilities are in the southeastern portion of the yard in a new landfill area. Construction in this area began in the winter of 1965-66. In August 1970 the facility appeared to be two to three years from completion. Enough indicators (footings, foundations, craneways) were present that a confident prediction can be made as to the appearance of the finished facility. In addition, an assessment can be made of its future capabilities.

BASIC DESCRIPTION

5. The new installation will incorporate a system of two covered building docks and a two-level fitting-out and launching basin, which, when complete, will increase buildingway space at Zelenodolsk by approximately 200 percent (Figure 1). The foundations for the construction hall which will house the building docks measure approximately 262 by 151 meters (860 by 495 feet). The construction hall will have three bays, and the building docks will be under the two outer bays. The center bay will cover a platen area. All three bays will probably be served by overhead cranes; however, the supports for such cranes were not visible on the most recent photography nor was there evidence of a transverser system.

6. Each of the two building docks [redacted], and each will probably have two buildingways. A hull section subassembly area at the head of each building dock will occupy the remaining [redacted] of the construction hall. The buildingways will feed onto ledges in a two-level basin [redacted]. The [redacted]

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7. The major portion of the fitting-out process will most likely take place on the basin ledges. Final fitting-out and dockside trials could then be carried out at the small fitting-out quay or at another shipyard with more available quay space, such as Sevastopol. Quay space is so limited at Zelenodolsk that newly constructed ships are moored bow-to for fitting out, even with only the old plant in operation. It would, therefore, be most advantageous to have a ship as complete as possible before it becomes waterborne.

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8. It is conceivable that ships could be taken directly to Sevastopol immediately after launch without dockside outfitting or trials. This, however, would be a departure from current practice. Lending more credence to the basin-ledge fitting-out theory is a photograph of a model purported to be a very modern shipyard near Zelenodolsk. An artist's drawing of this model is presented in Figure 2. The model is, in fact, very close to the features visible at Zelenodolsk on KEYHOLE photography. It has relatively light-duty overhead cranes on the basin ledges which would be used for fitting out. The launching of one ship without disturbing others on the ledges could easily be accomplished with flotation devices. (A similar concept is used at Severodvinsk Shipyard 402 with the Y-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine.) Sixteen PCE-sized ships could be under construction concurrently, either on the ways or fitting out in the basin.

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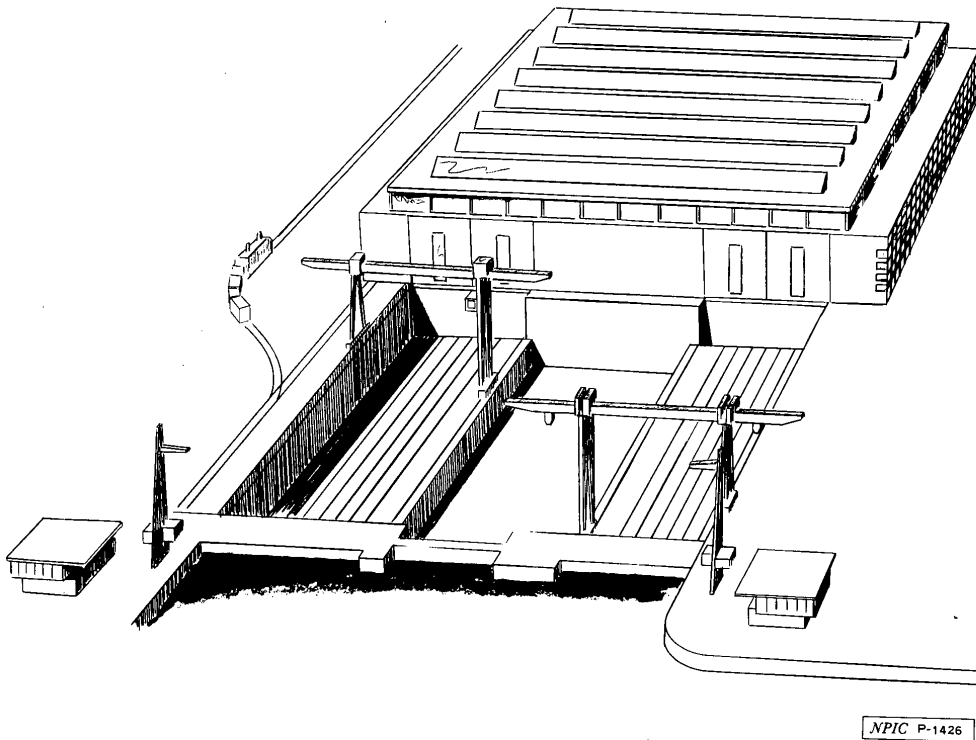


FIGURE 2. ARTIST'S CONCEPT OF A MODERN SHIPYARD NEAR ZELENODOLSK (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH OF A MODEL)

REFERENCES

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MAPS OR CHARTS

8th RTS. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet M0165-1HL, 4th ed, Apr 68, scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

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